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Attack in Egypt kills 235

AMR NABIL / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Abdallah Abdel Nasser, 14, receives medical treatment at Suez Canal University hospital in Ismailia, Egypt, on Friday after he was in injured when militants attacked the al-Rawdah mosque Friday in the Sinai Peninsula.

More than 100 injured as militants storm mosque

By Omar Medhat, Nabih Bulos and Alexandra Zavis
Los Angeles Times

CAIRO — At least 235 people were killed when gunmen stormed a mosque during Friday prayers in the Sinai Peninsula, setting off explosives and firing on worshippers in what was believed to be the deadliest single attack by Islamist extremists on Egyptian civilians.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the assault in the town of Bir Abed, about 25 miles from the North Sinai provincial capital of Arish. But the region has long been the scene of a simmering Islamist insurgency, and Islamic State fighters have dramatically escalated the level of violence there in recent years.

Friday's attack, which reportedly involved more than a dozen gunmen who arrived in off-road vehicles, targeted a mosque frequented by Sufi Muslims, followers of a mystical branch of Islam who are viewed as heretics by Sunni extremists.

There were conflicting accounts of how the attack unfolded. Some wit-

EGYPT ATTACK, 8A

DPA / ZUMA PRESS

Worshipers stand outside the mosque after the deadliest attack by Islamist extremists on Egyptian citizens.

ISIS finds old script best to lure new members

Recruiting films often follow Hollywood's formula for hero tales

By Deb Riechmann
Associated Press

Beyond the slick, Hollywood-style cinematics, the Islamic State is targeting Western recruits with videos suggesting they, too, can be heroes like Bruce Willis' character in "Die Hard."

That's the conclusion of The Chicago Project on Security and Threats, which analyzed some 1,400 videos released by ISIS between 2013 and 2016. Researchers who watched and catalogued them all said there is more to the recruitment effort than just sophisticated videography, and it's not necessarily all about Islam.

Instead, Robert Pape, who directs the security center, said the extremist group is targeting Westerners — especially recent Muslim converts — with videos that follow, nearly step-by-step, a screenwriter's standard blueprint for heroic storytelling.

"It's the heroic screenplay journey, the same thing that's in Wonder Woman, where you have some-

ISIS RECRUITING, 8A

Franken scandal: What's happened, what's ahead

By S. M. Chavey
schavey@pioneerpress.com

Friday will mark the ninth day since a woman first accused Sen. Al Franken of inappropriate sexual behavior, and the news hasn't stopped since. Here's what we know:

THE ACCUSATIONS

Four women — two anonymously — accused Franken of improper sexual conduct. At least two of the incidents occurred before Franken, a Democrat, was first elected to the Senate in 2008.

Minnesota Sen. Al Franken was first accused of sexual harassment by radio host Leeann Tweeden on Nov. 16.

• Nov. 16, Leeann Tweeden: "Senator Al Franken kissed and groped me without my consent, and there's nothing funny about it." The model and radio host said Franken forcibly kissed her in 2006 while rehearsing a skit on a USO tour. She also published a photo in which Franken appears to touch her chest in her sleep.

• Nov. 20, Lindsay Menz: "He put his hand full-fledge on my rear" while posing for a picture in 2010. The 33-year-old who now lives in Texas said she was at the Minnesota State Fair taking pictures with many elected officials but said the experience with Franken made her feel "gross."

• Nov. 22, two anonymous women: One said Franken groped her while posing for a photo in June 2007 at a political event in Minneapolis, according to the

FRANKEN ACCUSATIONS, 2A

St. Paul airport readies for big game

Holman Field adding new eatery, upgrades in Super Bowl prep

By Kathy Berdan
kberdan@pioneerpress.com

When the Super Bowl lands in Minneapolis on Feb. 4, St. Paul's Holman Field is expected to see its busiest day ever.

Joe Harris, manager of the downtown airport, says 1,100 to 1,300 private and corporate aircraft are expected for Super Bowl LII. They will descend on Holman Field, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, Anoka County-Blaine Airport and Flying Cloud Airport in Eden Prairie.

During the 2017 Super Bowl, Harris went to Houston-area airports similar to Holman Field to observe. "I gained a lot of knowledge from the Houston team," he said. "We're as prepared as we can be at this stage in the game. We want to put

SUPER BOWL PREP, 2A

From 'Black Friday' emerges the $100 billion man

Amazon's big day pushes founder Bezos into rare wealth level

By Thomas Heath
Washington Post

Amazon.com founder and chief executive — and Washington Post owner — Jeff Bezos saw his net worth climb above $100 billion Friday as shares in his online retail giant surged on optimism over holiday sales.

Bezos' ascent is the first time anyone has crossed the $100 billion threshold since Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates earned it in 1999, according to Bloomberg, whose Billionaire's Index follows the real-time net worth of the world's 500 wealthiest people.

Amazon shares were up 2.5 percent to $1,186 at Friday's early market close. The shares are up more than 58 percent this year, consequently boosting Bezos' wealth with it. The surge netted Bezos $2.4 billion on Friday alone.

Online purchases for Black Friday are up 18.4 percent over

$100 BILLION MAN, 8A

Jeff Bezos is the first person worth $100 billion since Bill Gates in 1999.

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